SUBJECT No. 150.

Exemption from payment of a rupee in the case of date trees, naturally decayed.

Mr. Venkatappa, Shimoga Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—It is prayed that the rule passed regarding the recovery of one rupee for every dead date tree from the contractor be relaxed in cases where there is no wanton destruction of such trees.

Mr. D. Venkataramaiya, Bangalore City Municipality.—Trees are badly tapped by contractors. The fine should be increased.

Reply of Government.—Specific cases of hardship should be brought to the notice of the Excise Commissioner.

SUBJECT No. 151.

Default in payment of excise *khists*.

Messrs. Dasappa and Chowdaiya, Arsikere Taluk; and Venkatappa, Shimoga Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—When excise contractors make default in the payment of *khists* by the 20th of each month, interest at one pie per rupee is levied together with a fine of 2 per cent. As this operates as a hardship, one or the other of these punishments may be abolished. Both the penalties have been levied in certain cases in the Arsikere Taluk.

Reply of Government.—The circular of the Excise Commissioner will be referred to and the matter considered.

SUBJECT No. 152.

Speedy payment of excise revenue of *inam* villages.

Messrs. V. Raghavachar and Madappa, Mysore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The toddy revenue of *inam* villages is held in deposit by Government for more than ten or twelve years. In instances where the title of the *inamdars* to such revenue is established, speedy payment is requested.

Messrs. Amble Anniah Pandit and D. Venkataramaiya.—For the period as to which there is no doubt, payment may be made without delay. The enquiry should be restricted to the period after 1897.

Reply of Government.—The matter will be enquired into and the disposal of claims expedited.

SUBJECT No. 153.

A special officer to enquire into the claims of *inamdars* to toddy revenue.

Messrs. V. Raghavachar and Madappa, Mysore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Government were pleased to frame a set of rules some seven or eight years back to enquire into and dispose of the claims of *inamdars* to toddy revenue. In accordance therewith many cases have been disposed of, and many still remain pending disposal. To bring the matter to a close soon, a special officer may be appointed under the designation of Inam Commissioner.

Reply of Government.—Noted. The early disposal of these claims is being insisted upon. There is at present a doubt as to the precise scope of the benefits which should accrue to a privileged *inamdar*.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL BOARDS.

(*Nos. 154 to 171.*)

SUBJECT No. 154.

Non-official Vice-Presidents or Chairmen for local bodies.

Summary of discussion.—Assistant Commissioners and Amildars are now appointed as Vice-Presidents of Municipal Councils and District and Taluk Boards. In their